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HAVING INCREASED MY FACIL-
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TO FURNISH DOUBLE
QUANTITY OF
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Also will take contract to
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or more anywhere within
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Can always furnish what
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ence and orders solicited.
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work of all kinds. Work done cheap
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THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE \$1.00.

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SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1896.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things
Present, Past and Future.

Diamonds and secrets are much
alike to a woman—they are valueless
to her unless she can manage to let
some one else know about them. In-
asmuch as it shows want of taste and
sense of propriety to wear rings on the
outside of the glove, the latest fad of
showing diamonds is to sew the dia-
monds along the back of the glove
simply to show the presence of wealth.
Some one remarks that it would be
just as sensible to trim a skirt with
thousand dollar bills.

Every season brings forth its num-
erous fads and enrolls its devotees in
order; but about the most unique fad we
have seen this season is the campaign
button fad. We doubt if ever the
world saw before such a flood of cam-
paign buttons and of so many designs
as American enterprise has sent out
this season. All sorts and sizes are
worn by all kinds of people from the
school-boy and street urchin, the joy-
ous and gay gallant, to the grave and
sedate gray-haired patriarch.

At last Prof. Cole of Chicago thinks
he has solved the problem of navigat-
ing the air.

His model stood the tests so success-
fully that money has been raised to
build a monster air-ship. Hot air will
make the lifting force and wings as
nearly as can possibly be made like a
bird's will do the propelling.

Whether Prof. Cole has succeeded or
not, the next generation will see transi-
gyrations that would make an eigh-
teenth century man's head swim.

Many things are probable and most
things are becoming possible as we
draw near the close of the nineteenth
century. Even the laws of nature are
set at defiance by latter-day enterprise.
It has become fashionable to have red
hair, and a waggish writer says raven
locks and ashen tresses now undergo
the magic change of becoming blonde
ringlets, much to the satisfaction of
the brains beneath them. Even be-
witching dimples are manufactured to
order, and those of the "upper crust"
will no longer have any one but them-
selves to blame if they still remain
ugly.

The "sanctification" craze has great-
ly disturbed some communities of late,
and an exchange says that a certain
Baptist minister preached more than
three hours on "sanctification."

We do not know whether he was de-
fending sanctification or condemning
it; but it would take some degree of
sanctification on the part of the ordi-
nary mortal listener to be patient un-
der a three hours sermon preached by
any ordinary man. There is a time to
all things, and public speakers ought
to remember that there is a time to
stop.

There are two facts about the politi-
cal campaign this year that strike us
as being something unusual, viz: the ac-
tivity of women and ministers of the
gospel. It is a common thing to see
the portraits of fair women in the great
journals and read the statement that
they are active on this or that issue of
the campaign.

Sometimes the good and saintly wo-
men of the country have had a say
about prohibition; but this time the
women seem to have more to say on
the money question than anything
else.

The physicians of Pitt county have
formulated and published resolutions,
signing their names to them, that they
will Black List persons who are able to
pay them and will not do it. They say
they will attend calls for the worthy
poor who are unable to pay them, but
they will not attend calls for persons
who do not make satisfactory arrange-
ments about what they owe them by
the first of January, 1897. The Re-
flector prints the resolutions passed by
the physicians as well as the names of
those signing it.

There is no class of professional men
on earth who ought to be paid more
promptly than the faithful physicians
of the country.

A LETTER FROM CHINA.

WONDERS IN ECONOMY.

Nankin, China.

Now I will tell you how the Chinese
live when at home and the economy
they use. Nankin was the former cap-
ital of China and is a walled city.
Some of our American people think
they know how to economize, but they
don't know anything about it. They
should take a trip to China and learn
something of the science of saving.
The expense of living is reduced to its
lowest here and the Chinese millions
would have grown fat on what the
thrifty Americans waste.

The food for a poor man in China
costs him no more than two cents a
day, and at \$4 a month a man will sup-
port a family and lay away money in
the bank. I met a fat, jolly looking
Chinaman one day, who told me he had
a wife and five children and his income
was sufficient for all his wants, and he
only earned two dollars in gold a month
(which is equal to \$4 in Chinese mon-
ey), as a carpenter and his wife earned
one dollar more by washing and sewing.
The cost is only five cents a day to
feed a patient in the Methodist Hospi-
tal here.

A farmer may be hired for from \$12
to \$15 a year, provided he has his rice
and his tobacco for the year. It costs
about \$5 a year to furnish a Chinese
laborer's wardrobe.

The majority of the people of this
part of China are well fed and clothed.
They have a very pleasant look and
they are (I believe) far happier than
the average American laborer. They
seem to enjoy life and they are far
above the average of the world in their
manners and culture. They have lots
of curiosity and will crowd around you
when you go ashore. I find much in
them to admire, and I wonder every
day at their wonderful skill of econom-
y.

I will mention a few of them. Nearly
all the fires in China are made of
straw and reeds, every wisp of dry grass
is cut and saved. There are more than
two thousand Chinese who do nothing
else but reap the reeds and grass which
grow along the banks of the Yangtze
Kiang river and bring it into the cities
to sell. They use this for cooking pur-
poses. Chinamen do not keep warm
by fire. In the winter they pad their
clothes with cotton or wool. The hot
water used for their tea and rice in the
early morning is sold by hot water
stores. You can get a bucket of boil-
ing water for one cash, which is one-
tenth of a cent. There is a hot water
store in Shanghai, or any large city, to
serve twenty families. A large amount
of rice is cooked at one time and it is
warmed by pouring hot water over it.
There are tea gardens and restaurants
all over China and you get very fair
meals for a small price. Nothing is
wasted. They even save the water that
they boil potatoes and vegetables in and
sell it for feeding hogs. The bones of
all meats are bought by the manufac-
turers of knife handles &c. I had a
talk with Mr. Ferguson not long ago,
who is the President of the Nankin
University, and he says for a long time
he has bought meat and never could
get a bone in it. The most of the raz-
ors in China are made out of old worn
out horse shoes. These are brought
here by ship loads from Europe and
are carried to all parts of the empire.
There are second hand clothing stores
here and they are sold over and over
again until they are no good to
wear and then they are sold as rags to
the shoe-maker. The Chinese shoe
soles are made of these rags, which
have been washed and dried, and then
laid upon each other until they reach
the thickness required, and then patch-
ed up so nicely you would think
them leather. The uppers are made
of silk or cloth.

The clothing of the poor is patched
and repatched. There are hundreds of
women who do nothing but patch.
You can see them sitting on the streets
in the hot sun sewing away day after
day. They go from house to house to
do patching for a few cash a patch.
It is the same way with the crockery
menders. You can see them shoving
anywhere in the streets. They save
the hair that is cut from the head and
sell it to the furniture dealers for mak-
ing cushions and etc.

A large number of beggars are sup-
ported every winter by the government,
but as soon as spring comes this ap-
propriation is dropped and they have
to do the best they can. There is no
country in the world that has as many
beggars as China. They make it a
profession. Hung-Woo began life as
a beggar and became one of the great-
est Emperors China ever had.

In most of the cities in China there
are government granaries where rice
is stored for the poor against famine.
There are blind and leper asylums, but
no lunatic asylum. Each family has
to take care of its own insane. There
is no law against begging in China. I
have seen lots of Chinamen in this
city who had the leprosy and small-
pox walking up and down the streets
begging for a living.

C. T. CURRIE.

Pharaoh Used Locks.

National Recorder.
When were locks first used? The
earliest obtainable information points
to the time of the Pharaohs; for in-
stance at Karnak, the visitor is shown
the sculptured representation of a lock,
which is almost exactly like one kind
of lock used in Egypt at the present
day. But that is a very vague answer
to the question. Homer tells us that
Penelope used a brass key to open her
wardrobe. He adds that it was very
crooked and had an ivory handle. A
Greek writer who lived in the last half
of the twelfth century, explains that
such keys were very ancient, although
still to be seen in Constantinople and
elsewhere.

These keys are similar for drawing
back the bolt or bar which ran into
a staple across the door, or for pulling
out the pin which locked the bolt. If
we examine the mechanism of the ear-
lier locks we find that it is in itself suf-
ficient to secure the bolt without the
aid of a key to move something; in
other words the locking was done au-
tomatically, the key being required only
for the purpose of unlocking. Roman
locks, like the Egyptian, required
a partial sliding of the key; they
were, however, more intricate. The
pins which held the bolts were very
close together and of various shapes—
some round—others square. The key
had to be turned a quarter of a circle
before it reached the pins. Padlocks
also came into use for securing mer-
chandise to be carried from one place
to another and it is worth mentioning
that we can see at the present time,
in some of the countries of the far East,
padlocks made on the exact principle
of those employed in ancient Rome.
It was sometime afterward ere the pro-
jections called "wards" were invented.
This was a distinct improvement, as it
prevented unlocking by any but the
right key.

Various ornamental designs are ob-
served on mediaeval German lock cases,
while in the seventeenth century we
have the letter lock so called because in
order to open it, certain letters on a se-
ries of exterior rings had to be arrang-
ed into a word or combination to which
corresponding rings inside the lock had
been set, and some elaborate designs in
keys which are quite in keeping with
the revival of art. Regnier, a French
engineer, who acquired considerable
reputation toward the close of the last
century, produced some very ingenu-
ous key locks, to open which outside
knobs, etc., had to be turned to cer-
tain marks. The principle of the lever
lock was the invention of Barrum
in 1774.

Good Roads Indeed.

National Recorder.
This is an age of mechanical revolu-
tion and therefore it occasions less sur-
prise than formerly to note that a com-
plete metamorphosis of our turn-pike
system is being seriously and of-
ficially discussed. Gen. Roy Stone, in
charge of the road inquiry office of the
department of agriculture at Washing-
ton, in a recent interview announced
his belief that the ultimate solution of
good roads problem for the great thor-
oughfares will be steel track highways.
He advocates laying double tracks of
flat rails on stringers, with a 12-foot road-
way on each side for turnout. The
form of the rail should be shallow
trough with flat bottom and the edges
raised just enough to give a gentle
guidance to the wheels. This would
enable vehicles to turn on and off the
rails without difficulty. He believes
that such roads would effect a saving
of from 50 to 80 per cent. in the ex-
pense of hauling and also a large per-
centage in wear and tear of vehicles.
With the general use of horseless car-
riages which such steel roads would
promote, the saving might be even lar-
ger. The first cost of such roads will
be considerable, but they will effect a
great saving in repairs, so that in time
all our large cities will be connected
by these steel highways, which will be
crowded with vehicles, thus cheapen-
ing transportation and facilitating in-
tercommunication. And—what a com-
mendation of American courage and
energy—no one will assert that in this
progressive country so gigantic a trans-
formation is impossible or even with-
out the range of probability. If the
American people decide that iron roads
are the best they will have them.

Did You Ever.

Try Electric Bitters as a remedy for
your troubles? If not, get a bottle
now and get relief. This medicine has
been found to be peculiarly adapted to
the relief and cure of all Female Com-
plaints, exerting a wonderful direct in-
fluence in giving strength and tone to
the organs. If you have Loss of Appet-
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Spells, or are Nervous, Sleepless, Excit-
able, Melancholy or troubled with Diz-
zy Spells, Electric Bitters is the medi-
cine you need. Health and strength
are guaranteed by its use. Fifty cents
and \$1.00 at E. T. Whitehead & Co's
Drug Store.

PULPIT AND POLITICS.

LET PREACHERS HAVE THEIR
SAY.

But Let Them Say Right.

New York Journal.

It is not apparent that the clergy, so
many of whom have taken a hand in
this campaign, have added much there-
by to the sum total of sweetness and
light. Though it is their mission to
promote peace on earth and good will
among men, the brethren usually have
only to utter themselves on political
subjects in order to stir up strife where
no strife was before, and to double the
ardor of strife where strife already is.
The reasons for this are obvious enough.

The Journal would not for an instant
uphold the narrow doctrine that a cler-
gyman has no right to speak his mind
as a citizen on the issues of the day,
but it does contend that the shepherd
who chooses the pulpit as the place
wherein to air his private opinions as
to things pertaining strictly to this
world is guilty of presumption that de-
serves rebuke.

In matters of the spirit the
clergy possesses a practical monopoly
of authority, and being specially com-
missioned to disclose the designs and
desires of Deity, they are commonly
listened to with a respect which some-
times causes the vain among them to
confuse their personal with their official
character. Thus are these brethren
moved to think that there is due them
as great reverence when they hold
forth on politics as when they expound
the Gospel of Christ. And when this
happens, not devotion, but anger waxes
hot in the pews.

There are few classes of men so little
qualified as the clergy to pronounce
profitable judgment on issues that have
to do with purely earthly affairs like
politics. Habituated to immunity
from contradiction while they discourse
on religion, and generally spared from
criticism because of their sacred char-
acter, there is a proneness among them
to dogmatism of tone that is sometimes
exasperating, sometimes amusing. Or-
dinarily men of the world are willing
to take from the pulpit their theology,
and even their theoretical system of
personal morality, but they do not with
patience receive instruction from the
preacher how to do business, how they
shall vote on the tariff, the finances, or
on anything else; for in the domain of
the world's concerns the man of the
world flatters himself not unjustly that
he ought to know a good deal more
than his unworshipful parson.

But the brethren who insist on be-
ing universal schoolmasters to their
parishioners plead that when moral
questions are brought into politics it is
their duty to cry aloud and spare not.
This is seductive reasoning, for it
brings within the purview of the pul-
pit the whole circle of human interests.
What question can appear in politics
that has not a moral side to it? The
tariff has; our foreign policy, too; the
maintenance of the gold standard,
which, silver advocates believe, robs
the poor for the benefit of the rich;
the double standard, which, gold advo-
cates believe, would rob the rich for
the benefit of the poor. The preacher
who wishes to magnify his office can
see morals in anything that affects the
race—even in billiards, baseball, the
size of policemen's clubs, or the uni-
forms of street sweepers.

There is no sound objection to the
pulpit having its say about political is-
sues; it is the manner of its saying
that, as a rule, is offensive. If the
brethren would but bear in mind that
when they step outside the field of the-
ology they speak with no more author-
ity than citizens who do not wear the
cloth, and that their words are entitled
only to the weight which the brains
and character of the speaker earn them,
there would be an end of that arrogance,
that assumption of supernatural superi-
ority in wisdom which causes men of
sense, in and out of the churches, to
raise their eyebrows in wonder at such
egotism, and to shake their heads in
regret at impertinence so audacious—
and so injurious to the cause of reli-
gion, which should be dearer to the pul-
pit than the success of any political
party.

Condensed Testimony.

Chas. B. Hood, broker and Manufac-
turers Agent, Columbus, Ohio, certifies
that Dr. King's New Discovery has no
equal as a Cough remedy. J. D. Brown,
Prop. St. James Hotel, Ft. Wayne,
Ind., testifies that he was cured of a
Cough of two years standing, caused
by La Grippe, by Dr. King's New Dis-
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Mass., says that he has used and recom-
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because it always cures. Mrs. Hem-
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keeps it at hand and has no fear of
Croup, because it instantly relieves.
Free Trials Bottles at E. T. Whitehead
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The Davis Warehouse,



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I desire to say to the Tobacco Growers of Halifax and adjoining counties,
that I am better prepared than ever, to get you the very HIGHEST MARKET
PRICES for your tobacco. We have plenty of Buyers, and with more than
SEVENTEEN YEARS EXPERIENCE in the Warehouse business. I do not
hesitate to tell you that Rocky Mount is the market and the Davis Warehouse
the place, to sell your tobacco.

GIVE ME A TRIAL AND I WILL PLEASE YOU.
PROMPT ATTENTION GIVEN TO ALL SHIPMENTS.
Your Friend,

Buckner Davis.

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Prof. W. E. Wells, who
makes a specialty of
Epilepsy, has without
doubt treated and cured
more cases than any
living Physician; his
success is astonishing.
We have heard of cases
cured by him, his
valuable
work on this dis-
ease, which
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